

## **Healthcare Associated Infection Mandatory Reporting – State of Missouri**

**Submitted by: Judy Downs, RN, BA, CIC**

In 2004 the Missouri General Assembly passed a law requiring hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) to provide information to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) about HAIs in their facilities. Facilities are required to report central line-associated bloodstream (CLAB) infections, specific surgical site infections (SSIs), and ventilator-associated pneumonias (VAPs). The law also requires the DHSS to make this information available to the public.

Hospitals began reporting CLAB infections in July 2005. Each month hospitals report the number of CLAB infections in selected ICUs. Collection of data on SSIs from hospitals and ASCs began in January 2006. **Reporting on VAPs has yet to begin. The DHSS and its advisory panel are researching the kind of data related to VAPs that would be both reliable and useful.**

Facilities report CLAB infections by the type of ICU involved (medical/surgical, coronary, medical, surgical, pediatric, neonatal). Reporting by ICU allows for a fairer comparison between hospitals. It takes into account differences in the type of patients ICUs treat and the different risks for infection. SSIs are reported by procedure and the infection rates are adjusted to take into account differences in patient risk for infection due to factors such as the length of the surgery, the type of surgical wound for that procedure, and the patient's physical condition. Surgical procedures selected for SSI reporting are serious, are performed in a variety of facilities, and tend to be associated with HAIs. These procedures include abdominal hysterectomy, coronary artery bypass and hip repair procedures performed in hospitals, and breast and hernia procedures performed in ASCs.

This new information about HAIs gives consumers access to important information about healthcare facilities in their area and across the state.

Facilities vary in the types of patients they treat, and a facility that treats severely ill patients will naturally be at higher risk for HAIs. Missouri has used procedures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to adjust the infection rates so consumers can get an even picture among facilities. However, when reviewing the numbers, the public is asked to keep in mind that these procedures are not perfect. Also, public viewers are asked to note any comments and/or explanations provided by a facility regarding its data.

### **Below, I have outlined the general information and web pages found on the Missouri Healthcare-Associated Infection Reporting (MHIRS) site**

#### **I. Instructions for Using Site**

- When one links to the Infection Reporting Data, they are guided through a step-by-step selection of the information they want to view. As they make each selection, the next step and its choices appear. Step one allows you to: **Compare Central Line-Associated Bloodstream (CLAB) Infections or Surgical Site Infections (SSIs) among hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) centers in a region.**  
**Or they can**
- **View an individual facility profile** – shows all the available CLAB infection data for a hospital for each of the reporting intensive care units, and the SSI data for a hospital or an ASC.

#### **II. Infection Reporting Data – for information on hospitals or ASCs the public can select the information type they want:**

- Comparison data for multiple hospitals or ASCs
- Profile for individual hospital or ASC

#### **III. Definition of Terms used in the reports such as "central line" "HAI" "Risk adjustment" etc**

#### **IV. Frequently Asked Questions such as "why was this web site developed?" "where does the data come from" "How to interpret data", etc**

#### **V. Laws, Regulations and Manuals**

#### **VI. Publications and Reports**

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**VII. Information for Providers**

Facilities may choose to report their data directly to the DHSS, using the Missouri Healthcare-associated Infection Reporting System (MHIRS) website application, or through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

- **Intensive Care Units**
  - Definitions for ICU, NICU, central line, ventilator, central line days and ventilator days are embedded in the registration form for easy reference.
- **Surgeries**
  - Descriptions for the surgery reporting categories, along with ICD-9-CM codes, are embedded in the registration form for easy reference.

**VIII. MRSA**

- MRSA information for:
  - The public
  - Childcare
  - Schools
  - What does MRSA look like?
  - MRSA outbreak reporting
- Whats New? (periodic updates from the CDC)
- Links to related MRSA information

**IX. Related Links (such as APIC, CDC, HICPAC, IHI, JCAHO, Missouri Hospital Association, NHSN, SHEA, USDH)**

**X. Contact Us**

This is an information – rich website which is extremely user-friendly. I would highly recommend that advisory board members view it for themselves and we consider modeling our own recommendations after what Missouri has done.

**<http://www.dhss.mo.gov/HAI/index.html>**